Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing speaker adaptation in speech recognition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one speech recognition model;

accepting speaker data;

generating a word lattice having a plurality of paths based on the speaker data; and adapting at least one of the speaker data and the at least one speech recognition model with respect to the generated word lattice in a manner to maximize the likelihood of the speaker data with respect to the generated word lattice.

- 2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of generating a word lattice comprises generating a maximum a-posteriori probability word lattice.
- 3. (Original) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said step of generating a maximum a-posteriori probability word lattice comprises:

determining posterior state occupancy probabilities for each state in the speaker data at each time;

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determining posterior word occupancy probabilities by summing over all states interior to each word in the speaker data; and

determining at least one likeliest word at each frame of the speaker data.

- 4. (Original) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said step of generating a word lattice further comprises connecting word traces into a lattice.
- 5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of discarding interpretations associated with low confidence.
- 6. (Original) The method according to Claim 5, wherein said discarding step comprises determining posterior phone probability.
- 7. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said adapting step comprises performing maximum likelihood linear regression on the speaker data.
- 8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing speaker adaptation in speech recognition, said apparatus comprising:

at least one speech recognition model;

an accepting arrangement which accepts speaker data;

a lattice generator which generates a word lattice <u>having a plurality of paths</u> based on the speaker data; and

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a processing arrangement which adapts at least one of the speaker data and the at least one speech recognition model with respect to the generated word lattice in a manner to maximize the likelihood of the speaker data with respect to the generated word lattice.

- (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said generator is adapted to generate a maximum a-posteriori probability word lattice.
- 10. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said generator is adapted to:

determine posterior state occupancy probabilities for each state in the speaker data at each time;

determine posterior word occupancy probabilities by summing over all states interior to each word in the speaker data; and

determine at least one likeliest word at each frame of the speaker data.

- 11. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said generator is further adapted to connect word traces into a lattice.
- 12. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising a discarding arrangement which discards interpretations associated with low confidence.
- 13. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein said discarding arrangement is adapted to determine posterior phone probability.

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- 14. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said processing arrangement is adapted to perform maximum likelihood linear regression on the speaker data.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing speaker adaptation in speech recognition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one speech recognition model;

accepting speaker data;

generating a word lattice having a plurality of paths based on the speaker data; and

adapting at least one of the speaker data and the at least one speech recognition model with respect to the generated word lattice in a manner to maximize the likelihood of the speaker data with respect to the generated word lattice.